

INSIDE GARDNER

2016 Pavement Management Program provides infrastructure improvements

With aims to maintain Gardner's street network, the 2016 Pavement Management Program set in motion construction throughout the year to preserve many of the city's roads. The project represented the first phase of the city's recently adopted 10 Year Pavement Management Program.

Construction began in the summer and was finalized in the early fall. The work included granite seal and mill and overlay treatment to several city streets.

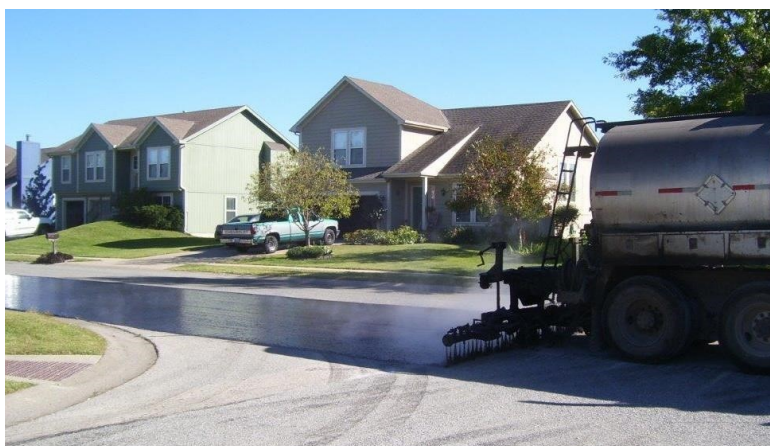
Streets that underwent granite seal were given a thin layer of finely graded rock chips held in place by a thin layer of asphalt emulsion to extend their life expectancy. Streets that underwent mill and overlay had their surface asphalt milled off and replaced with a new layer of asphalt. Additionally, defective curb along all streets worked on was removed and replaced.

Combined, the mill and overlay and granite seal improvements encompassed 27 total lane miles. In addition, 20% of the program's total street infrastructure was improved. Of the 27 lane miles and 20% of street infrastructure that

was improved, 13 miles and 9% were comprised of mill and overlay, whereas 14 and 11% were comprised of granite seal.

The quality of streets was also enhanced, with six of them increasing to a 100 Pavement Conditions Index (PCI) rating. These streets included Colleen Drive (Center Street to Mulberry Street), Westhoff Place (Center Street to Mulberry Street), Mulberry Street (Madison Street to Westhoff Place), Spruce Street (Madison Street to Cul-de-sac), Sycamore Street (Westhoff Place to Colleen Drive), and Cherry Street (Mulberry Street to Cul-de-sac).

The Pavement Management Program will continue in 2017 with more construction projects expected to occur. The estimated cost of the program to date is \$1.8 million. The full 2016 program wrap-up can be viewed at www.gardnerkansas.gov.



City to host Martin Luther King Jr. recognition event January 13

To celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the City of Gardner is hosting an all-day educational exhibit on Friday, Jan. 13, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. The exhibit will feature displays highlighting King's life as it relates to the Civil Rights Movement, his distinct focus on service and his death. Mayor Chris Morrow will open the commemoration.

"We are excited to provide this public display to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a man of great values, leadership and purpose," said Morrow.

The day-long event also includes a children's workstation where young learners can read age-appropriate materials and complete worksheets, advance their knowledge about King and understand why he is commemorated each year. An interactive quiz will be available to test kids' understanding of what they learned.

Every visitor will receive a Martin Luther King Jr. keepsake. Light refreshments will also be available.



Elementary students participate in painting of city snowplows

The City of Gardner held its annual snowplow painting program again this year, giving local elementary school students the chance to

participate in the painting of the city's snowplows over the past few months.

Students from Nike Elementary, Sunflower Elementary and Moonlight Elementary all worked on their own unique plows to be used on city trucks during the winter season. This year, each school painted a different design, with Sunflower depicting an eagle, Nike a rocket and Moonlight a collage of stars.

"Every year we look forward to seeing the designs they come up with, as we value their artistic expression and the time they spent adding their own personal touches to our plows," said Michael Kramer, interim Public Works Director.

The schools received the plows in the fall and were given until mid-November to finish. The program began to provide youth with the opportunity to make their own mark on the city, while also giving their artwork an outlet for others to see.

"The students who helped did a fantastic job, and we can't thank them enough for their hard work and effort on this project," Kramer said. "With winter weather now here, we're excited to show off the plows with pride knowing that Gardner students helped paint them."

Expect to see the plows on display this winter when city snowplows are in operation.

A message from MAYOR CHRIS MORROW

Greetings fellow citizens,

I hope you all had a happy holiday, and I laud and applaud the generosity of our community throughout the holiday season. Many in our community volunteered their time and donated presents, or supported a variety of organizations to help everyone in Gardner feel the joy of the season. Thank you, Gardner!

In an issue of last year's newsletter, I proclaimed 2016 as "the year of engagement in Gardner." It was exactly that, as civic engagement was in full swing, and those efforts will continue full steam ahead in 2017.

This past year was the first full year that our five new citizen advisory committees were contributing full time. These advisory committees were added to the four standing boards and commissions citizens have been serving on for many years.

As 2017 begins, I'd like to take a moment to thank one of our longtime volunteers, Lance Boyd. Lance is ending his volunteer service to the city this month after eight years, first on the Electric Utility Board and then succeeded by the

Utility Advisory Commission. Lance is an electric utility professional, and his knowledge and leadership was invaluable as Gardner's three utilities joined together and became one city department. He also generously dedicates his time every year in our community with his church, and beyond our community with Gideons International. Lance, we will miss your knowledge, generosity, talent and dedication to our community.

In 2016 we saw a second successful installment of our citizens academy, Gardner You!. This interactive program focuses on educating residents and business owners about how Gardner city government works for our community. In January 2017 we will again kick the year off with a new group of citizens ready to learn more about how our city works.

Finally, please keep up-to-date with what's going on in the city in 2017. You can do this through our upgraded and continuously updated city website, multiple social media channels, and please, don't forget to sign up for our city email blasts. Our success as a community will continue to be assured by the enthusiasm of our residents. At City Hall, we will continue to do all we can to provide our citizens opportunities to be involved.

Best regards,



A few ways Citizens Academy Gardner You! can benefit you

Have you ever wondered how local governments function? Would you like to learn more about their daily operations and decision-making processes? Then Gardner You!, Gardner's Citizens Academy, is for you.



The interactive civic and public information program will begin its third year of classes on Thursday, Jan. 26, and it will again focus on educating residents and business owners about everything Gardner government-related.

Here are three reasons why you should consider applying for Gardner You!:

1. **It's both informative and hands-on.** The program consists of six interactive Thursday sessions that focus on the topics of finance and budget, business and economic development, boards and commissions, city programs, and more.
2. **It's a unique opportunity.** Not only

would you get the chance to learn from department directors and other city staff, but you'd also get a bus tour of facilities on Friday, April 7, as well as a graduation Thursday, April 13.

3. **It's free.** All you have to do is apply by Friday, Jan. 13, 2017. Applications are available at City Hall (120 E. Main St.) and online at www.gardnerkansas.gov. Remember, though, that space is limited, with only 20 spots available that will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, please contact the City Clerk at 913.856.0945 or cityclerk@gardnerkansas.gov.

New infographic highlights budget information for the 2017 fiscal year

With the extensive budget document for the 2017 fiscal year previously approved by City Council, the city has summarized basic information about the budget in an infographic. The two-page document features a range of content, including details about the budget creation process, general fund information, capital improvement projects and more.



The year's total budget amount is \$46.5 million, and the city continues to pride itself on fiscal stewardship exhibited by reductions in mill rate and steady water, wastewater and electric rates. In addition to a \$12 million general fund and \$4.8 million Capital Improvement investment in infrastructure and

assets, the budget also supports a variety of services, including utilities, parks and recreation, safety and streets.

The budget infographic can be viewed online on the Finance Department's home page under the name "Budget Summary," and it is also available in hard copy at City Hall.

DID YOU KNOW?

The City of Gardner is working to improve access to services, facilities and community activities for people with disabilities. The City will be releasing a community feedback survey on community access. We need your feedback. Please look for this survey in the coming months.



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Messages may also be left for any Council Member or the Mayor at 913.856.0939

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Mark your calendars



City Council Meetings:

- Jan. 17 at 7 p.m.
- Feb. 6 at 7 p.m.
- Feb. 20 at 7 p.m.
- Mar. 6 at 7 p.m.

*View more meeting dates at www.gardner-kansas.gov

Don't forget!

Daddy Daughter Ball

Gardner Parks and Recreation is proud to present its 6th Annual Daddy Daughter Ball. Get dressed in your "Sundae Best" and enjoy an evening of music, dancing and ice cream! Appetizers will also be served throughout the night. Pictures will be available for purchase as well as a free photo booth for your entertainment. Each daughter will receive a small souvenir as they leave. We will be offering two sessions this year to allow for maximum participation. Register early to get the session you prefer.

Date: Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. (Session I) or 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Session II)

Fee: \$35 per couple (\$15 for each additional daughter)

Age: 3-12 years old

Location: Gardner Edgerton High School Commons (425 Waverly Road)

Registration Deadline: Friday, Feb. 10, 2017

Max: 100 Couples



To view the most current calendar of all upcoming Parks and Recreation events, scan the QR code with your phone using a QR scanner app!



UPCOMING GARDNER PARKS AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

	Date	Registration Deadline	Age/Grade	Costs
Youth Programs				
Taekwondo & Karate for Kids	Jan. 30, Feb. 27	Jan. 24, Feb. 22	Ages 3-6	\$45-50
Daddy Daughter Ball	Feb. 18	Feb. 10	Ages 3-12	\$35/couple
Babysitting Clinic	Feb. 20	Feb. 10	Ages 11-16	\$55
Spring Soccer	Mar. 25	Feb. 10	Age 4 & K-8 Grades	\$70/\$55
Micro Soccer	Apr. 1	Feb. 17	Ages 2, 3, & 4	\$60
Competitive Baseball	Mid-April	Feb. 10	U9, U10, U12, U14	\$950
Machine Pitch Baseball	Late April	Feb. 10	U8	\$950
Recreational Baseball/Softball/T-Ball	Mid-April	Feb. 24	Ages 5-15	\$55-\$85
Kids Garage Sale	Mar. 25	Mar. 20	Ages 6-16	\$7
Player Development Soccer Program	Mar. 30	Mar. 24	Ages 5-12	\$70
Adult/Family Programs				
Scrapbooking	Jan. 27, Feb. 24, Mar. 31	Thursday before	Adults and Kids 11+	\$5
Square Dance	Jan. 15	Jan. 13	14+	\$25 or \$45
Co-Rec Volleyball	Jan. 15	Jan. 6	18+	\$175/team
Women's Spring Volleyball	Apr. 4	Mar. 24	18+	\$175/team
Adult Spring Softball	Early April	Mar. 10	18+	\$500/team
Earth Day Celebration	Apr. 22	Apr. 14	All Ages	Free